

Serial No.: 09/511,795
Examiner: Dmitry Levitan

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, 3-8, 10-15 and 17-20 remain in this application with claims 1, 8 and 14 being independent claims. Claim 2, 9, 16 and 21-24 have been canceled. Claims 1, 8 and 14 have been amended.

In the outstanding office action, independent claims 1, 8 and 14 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yin (US 5,982,748). The Examiner further objected to claims 21-23 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims. Applicants assert that independent claims 1, 8 and 14 include the limitations of claims 21-23, respectively, and all corresponding intervening claims. Applicants therefore respectfully request that these rejections be withdrawn.

Regarding claims 3-7, as these claims depend either directly or indirectly from independent claim 1, and therefore incorporate all the limitations therein, for the reasons set forth above with respect to independent claim 1, Applicants respectfully assert that these claims are in condition of allowance.

Regarding claims 10-13, as these claims depend either directly or indirectly from independent claim 8, and therefore incorporate all the limitations therein, for the reasons set forth above with respect to independent claim 8, Applicants respectfully assert that these claims are in condition of allowance.

Regarding claims 15 and 17-20, as these claims depend either directly or indirectly from independent claim 14, and therefore incorporate all the limitations therein, for the reasons set forth above with respect to independent claim 14, Applicants respectfully assert that these claims are in condition of allowance.

It is believed that the foregoing amendment places the Application in condition for allowance; therefore, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the Examiner's rejection of the claims as set forth in the Office Action, and full allowance of same. Should the Examiner

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have any further comments or suggestions, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned to expeditiously resolve any outstanding issues.

Respectfully submitted,

ALCATEL



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